

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

119
54206

408

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Release:-
January 10, 1938
3:00 P.M. (E.T.)

GENERAL CROP REPORT AS OF JANUARY 1, 1938

The Crop Reporting Board of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics makes the following report from data furnished by crop correspondents, field statisticians, and cooperating State agencies.

UNITED STATES

GRAIN STOCKS ON FARMS ON JANUARY 1

CROP	Average, 1928-32		1937		1938	
	Percent <u>1</u> /	1,000 bushels	Percent <u>1</u> /	1,000 bushels	Percent <u>1</u> /	1,000 bushels
Corn <u>2</u> /.....	65.2	1,384,543	64.4	806,935	71.2	1,667,989
Wheat.....	28.0	249,495	20.5	128,314	23.9	208,745
Oats.....	57.9	686,164	61.4	482,158	60.1	688,937

1/ Percent of previous year's crop.

2/ Data based on corn for grain.

APPROVED:

M. L. Wilson

M. L. WILSON,
ACTING SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

CROP REPORTING BOARD:

W. F. Callander, Chairman,
L. E. Wiland, Secretary.
Joseph L. Orr, J. H. Peters,
R. K. Smith, C. G. Carpenter,
J. A. Ewing.

CROP REPORT - JANUARY 1, 1938.

FARM STOCKS: Farm stocks of corn on January 1, 1938 were well above the average for that date, while stocks of wheat were considerably below average. Oats stocks were above average.

CORN: Stocks of corn on farms on January 1, 1938 are estimated at 1,667,989,000 bushels compared with 806,935,000 bushels on January 1, 1937, and the 5-year (1928-32) average of 1,384,343,000 bushels. The relatively large stocks of corn reflect the smaller number of livestock being fed.

WHEAT: Farm stocks of wheat on January 1, 1938 were estimated at 208,745,000 bushels, well above the 128,314,000 bushels on the same date last year but considerably below the 5-year average of 249,495,000 bushels.

OATS: Farm stocks of oats on January 1, 1938, amounted to 688,937,000 bushels, about the same as the 5-year average of 686,164,000 bushels, but considerably above the stocks of 482,158,000 bushels on January 1, 1937.

CITRUS FRUITS: Growing conditions during December were somewhat variable for the development of citrus fruits. Freezing temperatures in Florida on the mornings of December 7 and 8 resulted in some loss of fruit in the northern part of the citrus area, but cool weather immediately following the cold wave tended to hold losses to a minimum, and most groves came through without injury. During the latter half of December Florida crops were benefited by timely rains and conditions on January 1 indicated no appreciable decrease in production. In California there was some loss of Valencia oranges from high winds, but otherwise citrus fruits continued to develop in a satisfactory manner. Rainfall was ample in all sections. There were fewer cool nights during the month than usually occur during the period when winter citrus crops are maturing, which, combined with an already late season, tended to delay coloring and maturity. Quality of

fruit now being harvested, however, is reported to be exceedingly good. Weather conditions continued favorable in Texas and Arizona for development and maturity of citrus crops.

Production of all oranges for the 1937-38 marketing season, as indicated on January 1, was placed at 67,756,000 boxes, compared with 55,174,000 boxes produced in 1936, and with the 5-year average of 48,939,000 boxes for the period 1928-1932. Carlot shipments of Florida oranges from the beginning of the season through January 1 were the largest in the history of the industry. Navel oranges in California are "sizing up" much better than was expected earlier in the season, and prospective production shows a substantial increase over a month ago. Harvest of the California crop of Navels was reported to be more than two-thirds complete on January 1. Indicated production of Valencias is slightly less than on December 1, due to heavy winds which blew considerable fruit off the trees in some areas.

The 1937-1938 grapefruit crop showed no change during December, and prospective production is indicated to be 26,090,000 boxes, compared with 30,281,000 boxes in 1936, and with the 5-year (1928-32) average of 14,730,000 boxes. Carlot shipments of Texas grapefruit from the beginning of the season through January 1 were the heaviest on record, while shipments from Florida for the same period were materially below those of last year. The indicated production of California lemons shows no change from the December report and is placed at 8,550,000 boxes compared with 8,102,000 boxes^{in 1935}, and with the 5-year (1928-32) average of 7,208,000 boxes.

MILK PRODUCTION: Milk production has increased quite sharply since passing the seasonal low point about the first of December, the nearly 5 percent increase during December being the largest for that month since 1929. While, no doubt, part of the increase was due to the remarkably mild weather which prevailed in most of the country during the last week of December, the cumulative effects of the liberal feeding practiced since new grain became available are beginning to appear. There are also some signs that farmers outside the drought area are now making some additions to their dairy herds.

Although milk production appears to be heading upward, it is still moderate. On January 1 milk production appears to have been less than 1 percent heavier than on January 1 a year ago, the number of cows being about the same and production per cow, as reported, being only slightly greater. A month ago milk production was reported about 1 percent lower than on the same date in the previous year. Looking ahead, it appears likely that milk production during the remainder of the winter feeding period will average several percent above the rather low production of the corresponding months last year. However, the per capita production of milk, which on January 1 was close to the 10-year average for that date, is not expected to be greatly in excess of average during the next few months.

Regionally, milk production per cow as reported on January 1 was generally close to the 10-year average for that date except in the South Atlantic and Western States where it was several percent above average. Rather sharp increases during the past month were noted in the North Central States where production per cow was generally quite low on December 1

Price relationships during the past two months have tended to favor feeding grain supplies to milk cows rather than to other types of livestock. Butterfat prices held up well until late in December while prices for meat animals began to ease off several months earlier. The sharp decline in the price of butterfat during the last 10 days of December changed the situation considerably, but the prices of dairy products are still high enough in relation to grain and feed prices to encourage liberal feeding of milk cows.

For the country as a whole, milk production per cow in herds kept by crop correspondents averaged 11.88 pounds on January 1 compared with 11.81 pounds on January 1, 1937 and a 1926-35 average of 11.89 for January 1. In the same herds 67.7 percent of the milk cows were reported milked on January 1 compared with 67.1 percent on the same date in 1937 and a range of 64.2 to 67.1 percent on January 1 during the 10 preceding years.

CROP REPORTING BOARD.

mjd

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CROP REPORT

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Washington, D. C.,

as of

CROP REPORTING BOARD

January 10, 1938

January 1, 1938

3:00 P.M. (E.T.)

WHEAT: STOCKS ON FARMS JANUARY 1

STATE	Percent of previous year's crop			Quantity		
	Average			Average		
	1928-32	1937	1938	1928-32	1937	1938
	Percent				1,000 bushels	
Me.	53	81	50	26	96	38
N. Y.	48	37	40	2,293	2,125	3,510
N. J.	39	23	34	471	295	497
Pa.	39	37	40	7,314	7,258	9,423
Ohio	36	25	31	11,313	10,070	14,302
Ind.	25	19	24	7,474	5,898	8,352
Ill.	24	12	21	8,523	4,372	9,602
Mich.	44	41	45	7,087	6,848	8,396
Wis.	60	54	60	1,185	793	1,226
Minn.	48	47	41	10,112	8,054	14,671
Iowa	30	20	25	2,468	1,681	3,674
Mo.	26	10	19	5,489	3,141	7,829
N. Dak.	35	68	36	34,914	13,080	30,885
S. Dak.	41	107	50	14,070	4,586	7,600
Nebr.	30	23	24	19,250	10,838	11,324
Kans.	25	12	20	46,486	14,432	31,610
Del.	25	20	17	487	284	234
Md.	25	12	19	2,303	1,078	1,718
Va.	36	23	29	3,498	1,808	2,813
W. Va.	38	30	42	691	664	1,142
N. C.	31	30	32	1,177	1,558	1,861
S. C.	19	19	16	112	280	227
Ga.	19	23	24	99	359	347
Ky.	17	5.5	9	567	324	919
Tenn.	22	12	18	694	583	1,215
Ala.	23	15	40	7	8	31
Ark.	27	11	35	67	65	368
Okla.	18	12	19	9,866	3,302	12,438
Tex.	13	3.5	6	5,324	662	2,501
Mont.	35	45	31	17,056	6,145	6,795
Idaho	30	19	19	8,524	4,325	5,388
Wyo.	43	40	40	1,662	604	1,224
Colo.	27	24	27	5,416	2,566	4,281
N. Mex.	24	10	16	865	102	502
Ariz.	13	6	10	63	66	104
Utah	43	44	53	2,426	2,041	2,878
Nev.	35	31	63	131	112	253
Wash.	13	9	10	5,664	4,197	4,872
Oreg.	12	13	17	2,718	2,644	3,472
Calif.	13	5.5	2.5	1,585	920	419
U. S.	28.0	20.5	25.3	249,495	128,314	208,745

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CROP REPORT

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Washington, D. C.,

as of

CROP REPORTING BOARD

January 10, 1938

January 1, 1938

3:00 P. M. (E.T.)

CORN: STOCKS ON FARMS JANUARY 1 1/

STATE	Percent of previous year's crop:			Quantity		
	Average :			:		
	1928-32	1937	1938	1928-32	1937	1938
	Percent			1,000 bushels		
Me.	63	60	52	41	47	19
N.H.	64	71	63	80	87	86
Vt.	64	61	65	168	262	208
Mass.	73	84	75	306	318	308
R.I.	78	80	65	60	61	52
Conn.	76	81	62	387	400	359
N.Y.	70	74	72	2,815	3,303	4,166
N.J.	71	78	78	3,788	4,583	5,277
Pa.	67	74	75	23,052	31,478	37,260
Ohio	62	63	65	68,495	70,873	38,691
Ind.	62	64	73	82,947	68,550	145,066
Ill.	71	67	72	196,167	132,612	331,979
Mich.	61	69	69	12,817	19,510	28,839
Wis.	49	51	60	11,105	7,014	19,206
Minn.	53	50	64	48,534	29,150	83,880
Iowa	66	60	75	233,324	89,340	338,552
Mo.	65	56	63	83,851	14,418	75,679
N.Dak.	36	53	43	1,080	151	1,472
S.Dak.	55	100	61	39,446	3,129	20,877
Nebr.	68	90	70	139,871	9,118	49,629
Kans.	67	71	61	77,308	2,117	12,583
Del.	68	78	75	2,383	3,122	3,023
Md.	70	74	74	9,630	12,894	13,000
Va.	67	68	71	20,414	18,977	25,057
W.Va.	62	62	61	6,372	6,674	8,102
N.C.	70	76	75	26,532	31,972	32,994
S.C.	73	72	75	14,985	15,620	18,533
Ga.	73	72	77	26,498	23,760	36,748
Fla.	62	63	60	3,918	4,235	4,524
Ky.	63	60	62	36,198	31,061	50,878
Tenn.	66	64	70	37,349	35,789	45,525
Ala.	72	71	76	25,848	28,755	34,801
Miss.	71	69	73	22,270	26,893	32,678
Ark.	68	69	69	20,731	18,021	27,034
La.	65	65	67	11,585	13,204	16,321
Okla.	54	48	60	27,569	5,050	17,539
Tex.	62	52	56	48,377	34,523	38,456
Mont.	41	43	60	149	52	304
Idaho	50	63	62	433	507	613
Wyo.	52	68	63	651	404	832
Colo.	66	62	57	13,158	5,772	3,283
N.Mex.	57	76	65	1,764	1,277	1,556
Ariz.	56	35	55	196	137	206
Utah	49	43	40	93	101	101
Nev.	45	49	45	12	13	14
Wash.	52	52	45	216	194	233
Oreg.	44	49	60	372	540	752
Calif.	74	56	40	992	867	584
U. S.	65.2	64.4	71.2	1,384,343	806,935	1,667,382

1/ Data based on corn for grain.

ces

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CROP REPORT

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Washington, D. C.,

as of

CROP REPORTING BOARD

January 10, 1938

January 1, 1938

3:00 P. M. (E.T.)

OATS: STOCKS ON FARMS JANUARY 1

STATE	Percent of previous year's crop			Quantity		
	Average			Average		
	1928-32	1937	1938	1928-32	1937	1938
	Percent			1,000 bushels		
Me.	69	66	73	2,977	2,726	2,887
N.H.	71	61	73	197	209	274
Vt.	65	73	69	1,199	1,495	1,063
Mass.	70	52	60	103	88	90
R.I.	63	40	60	40	26	36
Conn.	64	50	71	146	81	124
N.Y.	71	70	68	18,536	12,874	12,784
N.J.	63	70	67	780	1,098	1,025
Pa.	65	65	64	19,111	15,606	15,811
Ohio	59	59	61	36,557	23,916	21,662
Ind.	52	56	57	31,968	21,561	26,205
Ill.	56	56	62	78,253	55,780	100,569
Mich.	65	74	67	29,773	23,814	22,962
Wis.	63	61	65	53,194	36,307	51,584
Minn.	59	71	64	82,455	67,007	105,805
Iowa	57	62	62	122,719	97,945	160,564
Mo.	59	52	58	21,943	15,252	25,172
N.Dak.	66	200	67	25,489	9,460	20,034
S.Dak.	64	110	67	37,470	13,983	20,950
Nebr.	58	96	62	38,772	18,304	22,095
Kans.	55	45	52	18,086	14,484	18,396
Del.	64	48	56	58	29	49
Md.	61	67	56	980	758	606
Va.	57	50	55	1,655	644	924
W.Va.	65	68	62	1,966	820	942
N.C.	33	36	34	1,084	1,235	1,642
S.C.	16	20	18	1,341	1,695	1,814
Ga.	17	16	15	972	1,112	1,299
Fla.	15	16	16	18	20	21
Ky.	53	42	47	1,607	442	869
Tenn.	43	47	41	804	434	607
Ala.	17	15	19	352	280	503
Miss.	27	25	15	215	325	214
Ark.	44	35	38	1,068	1,076	1,254
La.	20	33	32	94	370	446
Okla.	47	45	49	11,699	9,144	13,400
Tex.	45	52	41	17,449	11,727	12,477
Mont.	70	87	73	5,895	1,952	3,136
Idaho	63	52	58	2,859	2,452	2,877
Wyo.	69	80	62	2,446	1,340	1,644
Colo.	67	69	69	3,518	2,937	3,059
N.Mex.	50	32	55	343	128	330
Ariz.	50	12	20	142	36	47
Utah	60	65	69	987	772	787
Nev.	50	50	45	43	76	47
Wash.	56	50	55	4,065	4,258	4,433
Oreg.	52	49	50	4,162	5,631	5,180
Calif.	25	11	10	564	449	308
U. S.	57.9	61.4	60.1	686,164	482,158	688,937

ces

C I T R U S F R U I T S

CROP	: CONDITION JAN. 1 1/ :				: PRODUCTION 2/ :	
and	:	:	:	:	Average :	Indicated
STATE	:	1936 :	1937 :	1938 :	1928-32 :	1936 : 1937
ORANGES:		Percent				1,000 boxes
California, all	69	76	78	33,022	30,063	41,152
Valencias	68	75	77	17,422	16,829	25,232
Navels & Misc.	71	77	80	15,600	13,234	15,920
Florida, all	59	72	78	15,105	22,500	24,000
Early and Midseason	--	--	--	---	12,000	12,800
Valencias	--	--	--	---	7,500	8,700
Tangerines	49	81	54	---	3,000	2,500
Satsumas	34	59	62	---	---	---
Texas	57	87	70	294	2,000	1,900
Arizona	85	69	79	133	220	323
Alabama	--	83	80	100	56	76
Mississippi	--	35	84	41	26	67
Louisiana	--	95	68	243	309	238
7 States 3/	--	--	--	48,939	55,174	67,756

GRAPEFRUIT:

Florida, all	51	74	56	11,657	18,100	13,000
Seedless	--	--	--	---	6,000	5,000
Other	--	--	--	---	12,100	8,000
California	76	73	70	1,209	1,550	1,890
Texas	50	81	66	1,457	9,231	8,300
Arizona	87	78	88	408	1,400	2,300
4 States 3/	--	--	--	14,730	30,281	26,090

LEMONS:

California 3/	72	81	64	7,208	8,102	4/ 8,550
---------------	----	----	----	-------	-------	----------

LIMES:

Florida	47	62	67	8	45	110
---------	----	----	----	---	----	-----

- 1/ Condition reported on January 1 refers to crop from bloom of previous calendar year.
- 2/ Relates to crop from bloom of year shown, picking beginning November 1 in California and September 1 in other States.
- 3/ Net content of boxes varies. In California and Arizona the approximate average for oranges is 70 lb. net and grapefruit 60 lb.; in Florida and other States oranges 90 lb. and grapefruit 80 lb.; Calif. lemons, about 76 lb. net.
- 4/ December 1 indicated production.

ces

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
CROP REPORTING BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 10, 1938.

MILK PRODUCED PER MILK COW IN HERDS KEPT BY CROP REPORTERS 1/

	: January 1	: January 1	: January 1	: January 1
	: (Avg.) 1926-35	: 1936	: 1937	: 1938
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
N. Eng.	14.83	14.06	14.47	14.27
N. Y.	14.6	14.4	15.8	14.8
N. J.	18.6	16.4	18.7	18.5
Pa.	15.2	14.4	15.4	15.4
N. Atl.	15.01	14.47	15.69	15.15
Ohio	13.7	12.4	13.6	13.4
Ind.	12.2	11.2	12.4	12.1
Ill.	12.6	11.6	13.3	13.4
Mich.	15.2	15.1	15.6	15.0
Wis.	14.1	13.8	14.3	13.9
E. N. Cent.	13.69	13.03	13.93	13.57
Minn.	14.6	14.0	14.2	14.4
Iowa	12.0	11.7	12.5	13.1
Mo.	8.1	7.3	7.6	7.9
N. Dak.	9.8	10.3	8.3	9.5
S. Dak.	10.0	9.5	8.2	9.2
Nebr.	11.6	11.5	10.3	10.9
Kans.	12.1	11.5	12.0	12.0
W. N. Cent.	11.51	10.91	11.00	11.40
Md.	13.7	12.3	13.1	12.4
Va.	9.6	9.2	9.6	9.7
W. Va.	9.1	8.3	9.6	9.3
N. C.	10.2	9.7	10.2	10.7
S. C.	9.1	9.0	9.9	10.1
S. Atl.	9.85	9.22	10.12	10.16
Ky.	9.6	8.6	9.6	9.6
Tenn.	8.8	8.0	8.4	8.4
Miss.	6.5	5.2	6.1	6.2
Ark.	7.4	6.5	7.1	7.8
Okla.	9.3	8.3	9.0	9.7
Tex.	8.2	7.5	8.0	8.1
S. Cent.	8.25	7.38	8.04	8.33
Mont.	10.8	10.9	10.5	11.1
Idaho	14.4	15.1	15.4	15.0
Wyo.	9.7	13.0	10.0	10.2
Colo.	11.3	12.2	12.1	12.0
Wash.	14.8	14.9	15.2	14.9
Oreg.	13.3	13.6	14.1	13.2
Calif.	15.1	14.8	16.1	16.3
West.	12.94	13.68	13.49	13.50
U. S.	11.89	11.27	11.81	11.88

1/ Averages obtained by dividing the reported daily milk production of herds kept by reporters by the total number of milk cows (in milk or dry) in these herds. The regional averages shown were based in part on records from less important dairy States not shown separately, as follows: South Atlantic, Delaware, Georgia, Florida; South Central, Alabama, Louisiana; Western, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah Nevada.

NUMBER OF HENS PER FLOCK, AND OF EGGS LAID PER HEN AND PER FLOCK,
FIRST DAY OF MONTH 1/

Geographic Division	Layers per flock <u>2</u> /			Eggs per 100 layers <u>2</u> /			Eggs per flock		
	Nov. 1	Dec. 1	Jan. 1 <u>3</u> /	Nov. 1	Dec. 1	Jan. 1 <u>3</u> /	Nov. 1	Dec. 1	Jan. 1 <u>3</u> /
NORTH ATL.									
1925-34(Av.)	85.0	90.4	94.4	17.0	17.3	21.4	14.3	15.6	20.3
1936	90.6	98.4	96.1	21.6	22.4	26.6	19.6	22.0	25.7
1937	87.3	94.5	104.1	23.8	27.6	31.2	20.6	26.1	32.2
1938	-	-	96.2	-	-	32.0	-	-	30.7
NORTH CENT.									
1925-34(Av.)	98.9	109.2	117.5	14.9	11.3	14.0	14.9	12.5	16.7
1936	93.4	105.9	111.1	15.6	13.3	16.8	14.9	14.7	19.1
1937	89.1	98.0	111.4	19.0	16.0	20.0	17.2	16.4	23.1
1938	-	-	102.4	-	-	20.5	-	-	21.7
SOUTH ATL.									
1925-34(Av.)	54.5	58.2	61.4	18.8	17.0	20.0	10.4	9.9	12.3
1936	53.5	56.9	56.5	21.5	19.1	18.6	11.8	10.9	10.5
1937	50.7	52.5	61.4	22.9	21.4	22.6	11.7	11.3	13.8
1938	-	-	55.8	-	-	25.7	-	-	14.3
SOUTH CENT.									
1925-34 (Av.)	60.6	64.4	69.2	19.6	15.3	16.9	11.9	10.0	11.8
1936	56.5	59.1	57.4	18.4	15.3	18.1	10.6	9.2	10.5
1937	54.1	56.6	64.7	22.0	17.8	19.9	12.1	10.3	12.9
1938	-	-	58.9	-	-	20.3	-	-	12.1
WESTERN									
1925-34(Av.)	67.0	71.0	73.7	21.4	18.1	21.2	14.1	12.3	15.1
1936	67.2	71.4	70.6	24.0	22.1	26.2	15.2	14.9	17.2
1937	66.8	70.3	72.2	25.9	22.0	26.4	16.5	15.2	18.6
1938	-	-	70.6	-	-	26.4	-	-	18.2
U. S.									
1925-34 (Av.)	75.7	81.9	87.5	17.0	13.9	16.5	13.0	11.5	14.6
1936	72.4	79.1	80.6	18.1	16.0	19.1	13.3	12.8	15.1
1937	69.3	74.4	84.2	21.1	18.6	22.0	14.7	14.1	18.5
1938	-	-	77.4	-	-	22.7	-	-	17.7

1/ Covering about 20,000 flocks owned by Crop Reporters. These flocks are larger, and better cared for than on the average farm, the difference being greatest in the South. 2/ Including hens and pullets of laying age. 3/ January 1938 preliminary.

QUANTITY OF POULTRY PRODUCTS REQUIRED TO BUY 100 POUNDS OF
POULTRY RATION

	Dozens of eggs required (feed-egg ratio)											
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1936	4.97	4.86	6.66	6.89	6.50	6.24	7.49	8.21	7.60	6.47	5.41	5.95
1937	8.32	9.77	9.86	10.65	11.93	11.56	10.39	8.59	7.08	4.85	3.86	4.19

	Pounds of chicken required (feed-chicken ratio)											
1936	6.87	6.85	7.02	6.85	7.09	7.20	9.30	12.17	12.49	12.75	13.32	14.41
1937	14.34	14.43	13.63	14.09	14.43	13.75	13.18	10.43	9.32	6.94	6.40	6.64

	Prices received for one pound of turkey											
1910-14(Av.)	14.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13.8	14.5	14.5
1936	19.9	18.8	17.8	17.1	16.2	15.4	15.3	15.5	15.9	15.9	15.0	14.3
1937	14.1	14.0	14.2	14.3	14.0	13.7	13.9	14.2	15.0	16.7	17.9	18.0

POULTRY AND EGG PRODUCTION REPORT

Farm flocks began the year 1938 with the smallest number of hens and pullets of laying age on hand January 1 in the 1925-38 record. The reported average number per flock was 77.4, which compares with January 1 numbers of 84.2 in 1937, with 80.6 in 1936 and with 78.3 in 1935. The 10-year 1925-34 average January 1 number is 87.5.

The low average number of layers in the country this year is due largely to the great decrease that has taken place in the Central States during recent years as a result of recurring droughts and feed shortages in that important area. January numbers in the West North Central group of States are now 20 percent below the 10-year average January number, and about 10 percent less than the January average of last year. In the South Central States they are 15 percent below the 10-year average and 9 percent below last year. January numbers are also below the 10-year average by 9 percent in the South Atlantic and 4 percent in the East North Central and Far Western areas. In the North Atlantic area, however, reported numbers are 2 percent higher than the 10-year January average, although they are 8 percent below numbers there a year ago. The average numbers of layers for major geographic areas this year compared with recent years, and with the 10-year January 1 average are shown in the following table:

JANUARY 1 NUMBER OF HENS AND PULLETS OF LAYING AGE IN FARM FLOCKS

	: 1925-34	:	:	:	:				
	: Average	:	1935	:	1936	:	1937	:	1938
North Atlantic	94.4		96.2		96.1		104.1		96.2
East North Central	108.9		102.4		110.3		111.9		104.7
West North Central	125.4		108.0		111.7		110.9		100.5
South Atlantic	61.4		55.3		56.5		61.4		55.8
South Central	69.2		58.6		57.4		64.7		58.9
West	73.7		69.9		70.6		72.2		70.6
United States	87.5		78.3		80.6		84.2		77.4

Further accessions to the laying flocks from late hatched pullets now on hand but not yet of laying age may be slightly greater than in either of the past two years. The number of such potential layers reported on January 1 averaged 12 per farm flock compared with 10.1 last year and 10.9 two years ago.

With the exceptionally mild weather through December, the high seasonal rate of egg production per hen shown throughout most of 1937 was maintained on January 1, and this continues to more or less offset the severe decrease in numbers of layers.

The average number of eggs laid per hundred hens and pullets of laying age was reported at 22.7 on January 1. This is 18 percent higher than the high average of 19.3 eggs per layer for the last three years, and exceeds by 5 percent the previous high January record of 22 eggs per layer set in 1937. It is 38 percent higher than the 10-year January 1 average of 16.5 eggs. The rate of laying per hen was the highest of record in each of the geographic grand divisions, except in the Far Western area where it equalled the previous high record.

The number of eggs laid per hundred hens and pullets of laying age on January 1 is shown by Grand Divisions in comparison with recent years and the 10-year average in the following table:

Average Number of Eggs Laid on January 1 per 100 Hens
and Pullets of Laying Age.

	10-yr. average 1925-34	1935	1936	1937	1938
N. Atl.	21.4	25.5	26.6	31.2	32.0
E.N.Cent.	15.9	17.5	19.0	24.0	24.4
W.N.Cent.	12.6	11.1	15.3	17.4	18.0
S.Atl.	20.0	19.9	18.6	22.6	25.7
S.Cent.	16.9	16.6	18.1	19.9	20.3
West.	21.2	23.2	26.2	26.4	26.4
U. S.	16.5	16.9	19.1	22.0	22.7

The indicated total production of eggs by farm flocks on January 1 was slightly less than on January 1 last year but exceeded the January 1 production of any other year of the series beginning in 1925. The total production decreased in all principal areas, except the South Atlantic States which records a small increase over January 1 production last year.

PRICES OF EGGS, CHICKENS, TURKEYS, AND FEED FOR POULTRY.

United States average mid-month prices to farmers at local markets

Prices of 100 pounds of feed used in a farm poultry ration*

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1910-14(Av)	122.8	125.1	126.9	129.6	132.7	134.2	137.0	136.4	140.2	131.4	124.5	122.5
1936	113.4	115.7	116.6	115.7	117.7	118.0	149.8	183.8	186.1	178.5	175.8	181.6
1937	192.2	196.3	196.3	214.1	213.6	203.5	201.6	175.3	162.2	122.2	108.2	108.9

Prices received for one dozen eggs

	1910-14(Av)	1936	1937
Jan.	28.0	22.8	23.1
Feb.	23.7	23.8	20.1
Mar.	19.6	17.5	19.9
Apr.	16.6	16.8	20.1
May	16.7	18.1	17.9
June	16.7	18.9	17.6
July	16.7	20.0	19.4
Aug.	18.0	22.4	20.4
Sept.	20.8	24.5	22.9
Oct.	23.9	27.6	25.2
Nov.	28.1	32.5	28.0
Dec.	30.4	30.5	26.0

Prices received for one pound of chicken

	1910-14(Av)	1936	1937
Jan.	10.8	16.5	13.4
Feb.	11.1	16.9	13.6
Mar.	11.4	16.6	14.4
Apr.	11.8	16.9	15.2
May	11.8	16.6	14.8
June	11.7	16.4	14.8
July	12.2	16.1	15.3
Aug.	12.1	15.1	16.8
Sept.	11.9	14.9	17.4
Oct.	11.7	14.0	17.6
Nov.	10.9	13.2	16.9
Dec.	10.6	12.6	16.4

* Price of poultry ration is computed on the basis of prices received by farmers for grain, and paid by them for bran and tankage.